

PATENT  
1163-0383P



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NAGANO, Soichi et al.  
Appl. No.: NEW Group:  
Filed: December 21, 2001 Examiner:  
For: SOUND REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND METHOD  
WITH VARIABLE-SPEED FAST FORWARD/REVERSE

#3  
9-13-02

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE  
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

December 21, 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☐ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should be forwarded from the International Search Authority. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE  
(check at least one box)

- a. ☐ DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

- b. ☒ DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

The relevancy of the Japanese language document can be determined through a review of the English language Abstract attached thereto.

- c. ☐ ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

- d. ☐ OTHER

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

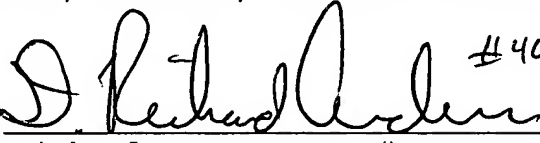
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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1163-0383P

Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s)  
☒ Documents  
☐ Foreign Search Report  
☐ Fee  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

(Rev. 10/31/01)

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|---|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Form PTO-1449   | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>1163-0383P      | APPLICATION NO.<br>NEW |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION<br/>IN AN APPLICATION</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | APPLICANT<br>NAGANO, Soichi et al. |                        |
|   | FILING DATE<br>December 21, 2001   | GROUP                  |

J0978 U.S. PTO  
 10/024150  
 12/21/01

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                     |                 |      |      |       |              |                               |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----|
|  |                 |            |         |       |              | YES         | NO |
|  | 5-303400 A      | 1993-11-16 | JP      |       |              | ABS         |    |
|  |                 |            |         |       |              |             |    |
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**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.